CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

July 9, 1999

S. 401

Native American Business Development, Trade Promotion, and Tourism Act of 1999

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on June 16, 1999

CBO estimates that implementing S. 401 would cost $23 million over the 2000-2004 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. S. 401 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. This bill would authorize activities intended to benefit Indian tribes.

S. 401 would direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish the Office of Native American Business Development to provide financial, technical, and administrative assistance to eligible Indian entities to enhance the economies of Indian tribes. The bill would authorize the appropriation of whatever funds are necessary for that purpose. S. 401 would direct the new office to establish a Native American export and trade promotion program and would authorize grants to eligible Indian entities to develop intertribal tourism demonstration projects in five Indian areas. The bill also would require the office to report annually to the Congress on these programs. Finally, S. 401 would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to expedite the processing of applications to establish foreign trade zones in Indian enterprise zones.

Based on information from the Department of Commerce, CBO estimates that implementing these provisions would require a total of about $25 million in new budget authority over the 2000-2004 period. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates outlays of $3 million in 2000 and about $5 million in each of fiscal years 2001 through 2004.

The CBO staff contact is Megan Carroll. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.